

ANNUAL REPORT

2019-20



SUNDARBAN SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

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# Preface

## 31 YEARS HAVE

been passed and Sundarban Social Development Centre (SSDC) has been continuing its development journey towards improving the quality of and access to health, nutrition and education services for the poor and marginalized classes, children and women of Sundarban region. The Sundarbans region is one of the richest ecosystems in the world. The region contains arguably the world's largest remaining area of mangroves, and is known for its exceptional biodiversity, including numerous threatened species such as the emblematic Royal Bengal tiger and several species of river dolphin.

## THOUGH

the Sundarbans region is celebrated for its ecological attributes, it is a difficult place to live in. The inhabited portions of India's Sundarbans are characterized by severe poverty, which both contributes to and arises from the vulnerability of the population to a growing range of natural hazards. Resilience is characterized by a capacity to adapt to changing conditions and persistent stresses by responding effectively. However, the resilience of those residing in the Sundarbans has been undermined by a long series of persistent pressures. Sea level rise, salinization of soil and water, cyclonic storms and flooding have combined over the past century to render this one of the most hazardous areas in the Indian subcontinent.

## SSDC, A NON-GOVERNMENT

organization, started its journey for social development officially in 1989. Since then, the organization kept itself involved in all-round development for the people living at disaster prone Sundarban island areas, which typically identified as socio economically backward in all scenes of remoteness and poor living standard. Being a registered N.G.O under Society Registration Act 1961, SSDC has been implementing numerous community development projects in the areas of health, education, livelihood promotion and social and environment protection issues with the aegis support from Government, Non-Government and international funding agencies for sustainable development of the poor and marginalized communities. The organization has been working with a vision to build up a just society full of love, peace and equality and to uphold the human dignity in the process of empowerment and service facilitation.

**GOPAL PRAMANIK**  
PRESIDENT

**BHAKTA PURKAIT**  
GENERAL SECRETARY



# History of SSDC

During the dreadful flood of 1986 at the Sundarbans, two young and dynamic men in their early 20s, who were childhood friend as well, jumped in to start rescue work and also providing relief to the flood affected people of Patharpratima block of the Sundarbans. At that time, they had no intention to start an organization but later on, with 3-4 like-minded people, they formed the present Sundarban Social Development Centre (SSDC) and got registered in 1989 as a society under the Societies Registration Act 1961.

In a small rented room, the organization started its journey and none of the founder members never dreamt of a journey of more than 30 years at that time. In the year 1991, they received the first grant for development of the deprived section of the rural Sundarbans from CAPART for a project on WASH. That was the beginning and for the next 31 years and still counting, SSDC is moving forward every day with continuous support from various national and international organizations, from the West Bengal Government and Central Government of India as well as the local Government along with blessings of thousands of people.





SSDC believes in collaborative approach and right from the situation analysis and project planning stage up to evaluation at the end, it involves people from all strata in the community. SSDC involves all the local youth organizations, women's groups, village education samities, children, adolescents, ICDS workers, government health personnel and others in development process in a range from advocacy and strong network.

The organization also takes initiative to form Child parliaments, Kishor Kishori Bahinies, child protection groups & committees, village development committees and ensures participation of these stakeholders in all the community level actions. This makes the initiatives community led and also generates sense of ownership on development programmes.

SSDC does not believe in free-service delivery and always motivates people for their physical, psychological and financial contribution.

## OUR CORE INTERVENTION AREAS





# EYE HEALTH IN 2019-20

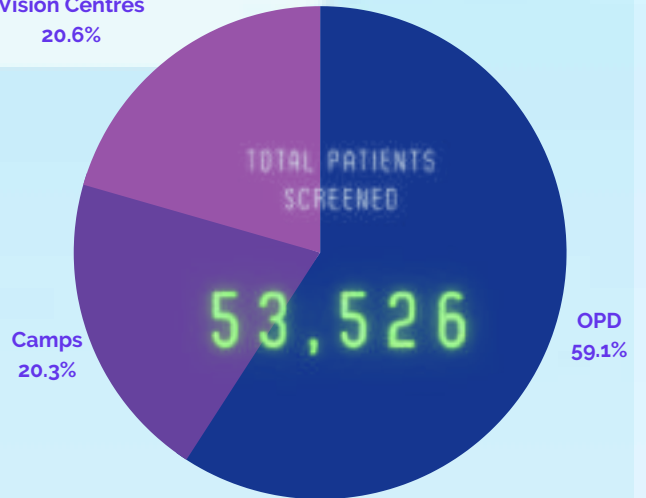
SSDC has extended Eye Care service for the community at hard to reach areas of Sundarban delta region in South 24 Parganas district. SSDC's base hospital, which was **started in 2004**, was awarded by the **National Eye Award in 2007** and **International Eye Health Hero Award in 2017**. The Eye Hospital is well equipped with all the modern instruments and state of the art facilities with a patient friendly environment, hospitality and clinical follow-ups to reach at doorsteps. The hospital has been rendering a bucket of services like cataract surgery with medicines & black spectacles, pathological investigation, biometry test, check up by physician before surgery etc. under one roof. The **21,000 Sq. Ft. Eye Hospital has 50-bedded capacity** with all the modern services as well its **own medicine shop and optical shop**. In addition, to reach the mass, the Eye Hospital has **11 Vision Centres** spreading all over the South 24 Parganas district.



Cataract - Free  
50.6%

Cataract - Paying  
49.4%

Vision Centres  
20.6%



OPD  
59.1%

Camps  
20.3%



Cost of New Equipment  
procured

₹ 1,02,46,928





# MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH IN 2019-20

Lack of awareness in Mother & Child Health care, the Sundarbans is worse in Infant Mortality. SSDC went ahead and took Health Care leadership in Mother & Child care Initiative with practice of Immunization, Nutrition and General Hygiene. SSDC has been organizing Mother & Child care Programmes since its inception. SSDC organize Camps for Pregnant Mothers on a regular basis to implement ANC/PNC and General Health Check-up at their doorstep. Pregnant Mothers receive Health Check-up by Experienced Doctors and Technical Support Team with motivation and advice for Institutional Delivery. Day by day with the rise of Institutional Delivery, Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) is gradually on the lower side at the Sundarban.

Through our intervention families with anemic members were able to save extra



They are using the extra savings for nutritious food for their families



**ANEMIA PREVENTION**  
**IMMUNIZATION**  
**HOMESTEAD GARDEN**  
**ANTHROPOMETRY**  
**MASS AWARENESS**

**EBF & NEWBORN CARE**

**COOKING DEMONSTRATION**

**SAM, MAM & LBW MANAGEMENT**



# CLINIC BOAT IN 2019-20

The **Clinic Boat** concept of SSDC is providing best health care in the remotest areas of Sundarbans islands. The Clinic Boat is adequately staffed and has diagnostic facilities. This clinic boat reach out to more than 10000 beneficiaries in a year and apart from providing basic health care (diagnosis and free medicine) to the vulnerable people of Sundarbans, it conducts awareness health camps with the help of ASHA workers to spread good health and hygiene practices.

SSDC's Clinic Boat reaches to those inaccessible islands of the Sundarbans, where the government health service and infrastructure is inadequate because of the adverse geographical situation as well as due to the regular occurrence of natural disasters like flood, cyclone etc.

## SERVICE PROVIDED BY THE CLINIC BOAT

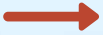
10,778   
2019-20

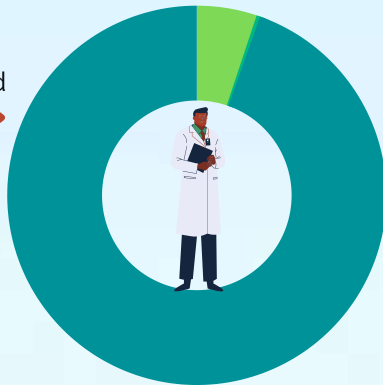
11,031   
2018-19

16,117   
2017-18

The decreasing number of patients shows the progress of the project- Linking more community people with the existing government health infrastructure is our goal as sustainability.

ANC/PNC women access treatment  
5.1%

Total camps organized  
262 



Treatment, medicine and counselling to other patients (aged, adolescents, child & newborn)  
94.6%





# WATER SANITATION & HYGIENE IN 2019-20

Safe Drinking Water has become the need of the hour for the people of Sundarban delta region. Lack of sanitation and hygiene practice is also a matter of concern, which results in various health hazards and malnutrition. School water & sanitation infrastructure needs to be upgraded to make it child friendly and ideal for adolescents to maintain proper menstrual hygiene. SSDC has its core intervention in WASH projects in the villages of Patharpratima & Namkhana Blocks. Safe drinking water supply & proper sanitation practice for overall health of the community have always been the major focus of WASH activities.

- Toilet Block Renovation in High Schools - 3
- Installation of Running Water supply with Drinking water station and Hand washing stations - 3
- Installation of Rooftop Rainwater Harvesting - 3
- New Tube well installation in High Schools - 3
- Conversion of Saline River Water in to purified drinking water - Ongoing



- WATSAN Committee formation & strengthening - 3
- Training provided to Jalabandhus - 3
- Training & Capacity building of VHSNC - 7





# CHILD PROTECTION & CHILD RIGHTS IN 2019-20

SSDC has its prime concern for child protection from all types of deprivation, abuse, violence & other risk of vulnerability. Over 30000 children between age group of 0-18 years from Mandirbazar & Patharpratima block are directly intervened through integrated child development activities. Early marriage, Child Domestic Workers (CDW), trafficking, school dropout are the key issues that relatively brings target-oriented intervention carried out to all children in multi sectoral approach. The targeted villages fall under socio-economically backward section and the resident population is at risk of issues like Child Marriage, Child Labour, Child Domestic Worker (CDW), violence related to dowry and child trafficking etc.

- 104 child marriage have been prevented
- 136 dropout children got admission in school
- 4 trafficked children rescued through VLCPC members
- 18 Child Labours and CDW readmitted to formal school
- 420 sessions for collectives
- Total 44 Children Groups formed and strengthened
- 1 Children Fair
- 44 VLCPCs prepared Plan of Action for the year 2020-21
- Khadya Suraksha Card issued to 46 families of vulnerable children.
- Swasthya Sathi Card issued to 11 families of vulnerable children.
- Aadhaar Card issued to 7 children
- Birth Certificate issued to 7 children
- 37 families with vulnerable children linked with 100 days job guarantee scheme under MGNREGA
- SC certificate issued to two needy families with vulnerable children
- 7 children linked to NSDC computer training with stipend
- The children group members organized 44 Hand Washing training for the community for prevention of COVID-19





# ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION & DISASTER RISK REDUCTION IN 2019-20

## Cyclone Bulbul

The severe cyclone storm Bulbul, which made landfall at the Sundarbans **on 9th November 2019**, resulted into copious rain and windstorm that gusted up to 130 KMph. Following are the conditions created after the disaster in 15 islands and disconnected the inaccessible Sundarbans islands even more from every possible way from the mainland -

- Blowing away thatched roofs of houses as houses are mostly katcha houses
- Plunging crops into water due to heavy and continuous rainfall and breaking of riverbeds.
- Devastating crop fields, betel leaf plantation ( Sundarban beetle leaves is a major agri-crop that is exported across the country)
- Killing and injuring numerous livestock such as cows,
- goats, ducks, chickens etc. This has further affected the water bodies as the dead animals are lying in the water.
- Destroying water bodies due to falling of huge age old trees and dead animal bodies
- Disrupted telephone and electricity supply, which can be addressed by the local administration in some months.
- Increase in the amount of toxic gases due to decomposition of dead animals and plants in all the water bodies in the surrounding areas resulting increase in health issues like severe skin allergies and dengue in rise etc
- Submerging water tube wells due to its presence in low -lying area and rise of water table 5 feet above the sea level

SSDC, immediately jumped in to this situation and **provided immediate relief to more than 2500 families** of Patharpratima block of Sundarbans. The items which SSDC provided to these more than 2500 families are -

- Dry ration
- Blanket
- Bucket
- Utensils
- Lime
- Bleaching etc.



## Plastic Pollution

Plastic waste has been a growing pollution issue in the region of Sundarbans affecting the natural flora and fauna of the reserve forests as well as the human inhabited parts of the deltaic formation. Due to growing urbanization, plastic has crept into the daily life of inhabitants and due to absence of any structured waste management system and guideline, unabated disposal of waste plastic in the rivers, forest and land, continues. In addition, due to lack of awareness, continual burning of waste plastic is another menace that is being carried on by almost all inhabitants, totally oblivious to its health and environmental hazards.

SSDC continues to sensitize the local community by awareness and campaigning programs involving the participating schools, local governing bodies such as Panchayat and Block Development office and participating waste-pickers to address the issue of waste plastic management in the community.





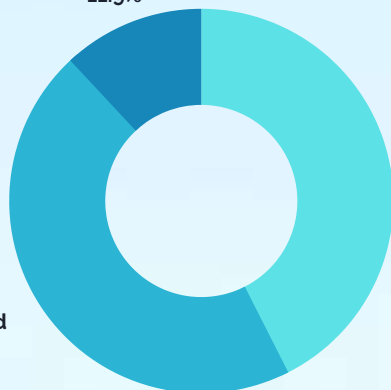
# FINANCIAL STATEMENT FY 2019-2020

## Summarised Receipts & Payment Accounts for the year 2019-2020

RECEIPTS	Amount	Amount	PAYMENT	Amount	Amount
OPENING BALANCE		₹ 39,04,187.17	Programme		₹ 5,31,75,396.12
FCRA Fund			Establishment & Infrastructure Exp.		₹ 68,27,943.00
Grant	₹ 3,89,67,282.06		Personnel Cost		₹ 2,74,62,684.00
Interest	₹ 1,55,044.00	₹ 3,91,22,326.06	Administration Exp.		₹ 5,98,942.92
National Fund					
Donation & Other collection	₹ 4,17,23,309.65				
Interest	₹ 1,55,650.00	₹ 4,18,78,959.65			
Collection from IGP section					
Sales Unit	₹ 1,09,48,340.00				
Interest	₹ 29,195.00	₹ 1,09,77,535.00	Closing Balance		₹ 78,18,041.84
		₹ 9,58,83,007.88			₹ 9,58,83,007.88

## Source of fund

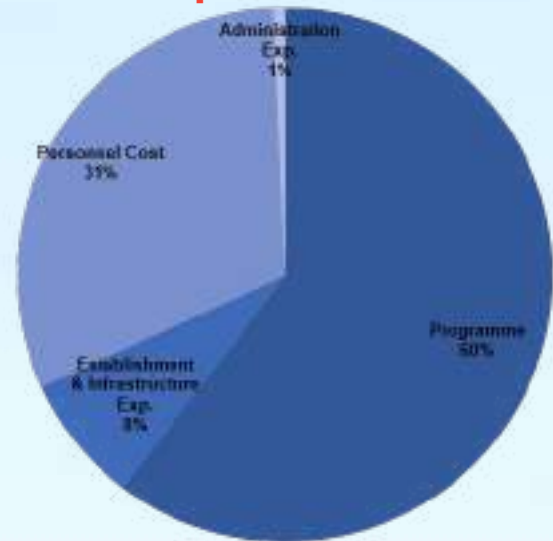
Collection from IGP  
11.9%



FCRA Fund  
42.5%

National Fund  
45.5%

## Expenditure



### ABRIDGED INCOME & EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31.03.2020

Particulars	Amount
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	
Expenditure on objects of the society	₹ 6,78,04,073.05
Depreciation	₹ 80,97,815.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>₹ 7,59,01,888.05</b>
<b>INCOME</b>	
Income from Local & IGP sources	₹ 3,74,97,018.32
Income from foreign sources	₹ 3,89,67,282.06
Interest from foreign sources	₹ 1,55,044.00
Interest from Local & IGP sources	₹ 1,84,845.00
Change in stock	₹ 6,52,617.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>₹ 7,74,56,806.38</b>
<b>Excess of Income over Expenditure</b>	<b>₹ 15,54,918.33</b>

### ABRIDGED BALANCE SHEET ACCOUNTS AS ON 31.03.2020

LIABILITIES	Amount
General fund/fund balance	₹ 6,81,82,378.39
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>₹ 6,81,82,378.39</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Fixed assets	₹ 5,64,57,353.55
Investment	₹ -
<b>Net current assets</b>	
Current assets	₹ 1,37,02,869.84
Less: Current liability	₹ 19,77,845.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>₹ 6,81,82,378.39</b>

# URGENT APPEAL

SSDC's governing body members, staffs and volunteers would like to place an appeal before all development concerned individuals, organizations and groups to extend your support towards the people of Sundarbans region as this region is suffering very badly at present due to the double blow of COVID-19 pandemic and the super cyclone Amphan. It is a humble submission to all of them to render benevolent service to the poorest of the poor living in Sundarban region.

In accordance with our integrated developmental efforts, we are also committed to reach more people to escalate the socio-economic & health development in the rural Sundarbans. Your valuable support may ensure an enormous change in human life in terms of raising their dignity to a different height forever.

## OUR PARTNERS

- Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India & Govt. of West Bengal
- Ministry of Panchayat & Rural Development, Govt. of West Bengal
- The District Magistrate & all the Additional D.M. of South 24 Parganas District
- The Sabhadhipati & all the Karmadhakshya, South 24 Parganas Zilla Parishad
- The CMOH, South 24 Parganas
- Sabhapati, all the South 24 Parganas Panchayat Samities
- BDO, all the South 24 Parganas Block Development Offices
- BMOH, all the South 24 Parganas Block Primary Health Centres
- Pradhan & Panchayat members, all the South 24 Parganas Gram Panchayats
- Japan High Commission, Kolkata
- CBM
- Cognizant Foundation
- Bart Massart & PAZ, Belgium
- UNICEF, Kolkata
- The Hans Foundation
- Save the Children, India
- Volkart Foundation Indian Trust, Mumbai
- Sight Savers India
- Fullerton India Credit Co. Ltd.
- Operation Eyesight Universal
- KFB, Austria
- WBVHA
- Help Age India
- The Humming Bird Foundation, U.K
- Water For People, India
- Terre des hommes

